

State of Utah Department of Commerce Division of Securities

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NEWS RELEASE

CAR DEALER ISSUED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR SELLING NOTES

December 30, 2005. Salt Lake City, Utah Francine A. Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce announced that the Division of Securities issued an Order to Show Cause today against a Harrisville, Utah car dealership, Auto Rama and a father-son team who ran the dealership. The Order alleges that Auto Rama, LLC, Scott Lamar Rhoads, and Zacharia Lamar Rhoads violated securities laws by selling promissory notes to investors.

The Division alleges that the Rhoads and Auto Rama sold more than \$800,000 in promissory notes to Utah investors between 2003 and 2005. One investor purchased over 450 promissory notes during a thirteen-month period. According to the Order, investors were told their money would be used to purchase cars at wholesale, then when Auto Rama sold the car, the investor would receive an additional \$250 for each 60 days the car had been on the lot. The notes were sold by Scott Rhoads and were signed by his son, Zach, who is the manager of Auto Rama.

The State alleges that investors were falsely told that their investments would be secured by the automobiles purchased with their funds. In reality, cars were promised to multiple investors as security. However, even this was a ruse as titles to the cars previously had been pledged to the auto auction which supplied the cars. The Rhoads and Auto Rama continued soliciting new money and rolling over notes even after they began missing payments to investors in November 2004. Investors were not told about multiple judgments and tax liens against the Rhoads and that a previous dealership had failed.